

*REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**The Pending Claims*

Claims 1-10, 14-31, and 35-42 currently are pending. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the remarks herein.

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1, 14-21, and 35-42 are allowed. Claims 2-10 and 22-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicants regard as the invention.

Discussion of the Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 21 have been amended to recite that the polishing composition has a pH of about 7 to about 13. Support for these claim amendments can be found in the present specification at, e.g., paragraph 0022, and in the claims as originally filed.

No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Discussion of the Indefiniteness Rejection

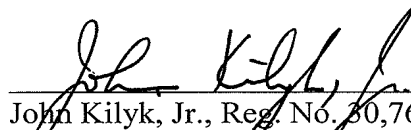
As noted above, claims 1 and 21 have been amended to recite that the polishing composition has a pH of about 7 to about 13. In their “Reply to Office Action” dated March 21, 2007, Applicants inadvertently changed the pH limitation recited in claims 1 and 21 from “about 7 to about 13” to “about 8 to about 11.” Evidence for the inadvertent nature of the changes is provided by the “Reply to Office Action” dated March 21, 2007, wherein the change is not reflected in the claims themselves by cross-out and underlining nor discussed in the accompanying “Remarks/Arguments.”

With the correction of the aforementioned typographical errors in claims 1 and 21, claims 2 and 22, as well as the claims dependent thereon (i.e., claims 3-10 and 23-31), further limit claims 1 and 21 from which they depend. Accordingly, the indefiniteness rejection is moot and should be withdrawn. Moreover, since claims 2-10 and 22-31 depend from allowed claims 1 and 21, respectively, claims 2-10 and 22-31 also should be allowed.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



John Kilyk, Jr., Reg. No. 30,763
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6731
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

Date: March 6, 2008